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SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1941

No. 3135 61st Year

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OVER 3,000,000 CERTIFIED SALE

London Edition

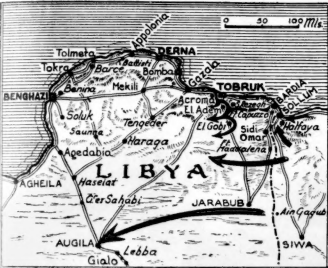
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## Rommel Makes Another Bid To Escape

# DESERT TANKS RAGING AGAIN

THE GREAT BATTLE OF THE TANKS IS RAGING AGAIN IN LIBYA. ROMMEL'S ARMoured FORCES, SCATTERED ON WEDNESDAY, AND LATER REFORMED UNDER COVER OF DARKNESS, ARE MAKING A NEW AND DESPERATE THRUST WESTWARDS IN AN EFFORT TO ESCAPE THE SURROUNDING RING OF BRITISH STEEL.



## War Work Comes First CHRISTMAS: ONE DAY HOLIDAY

THIS IS TO BE A ONE-DAY CHRISTMAS FOR WAR WORKERS. BUT SHOPS AND OTHER BUSINESSES NOT ENGAGED ON WAR WORK WILL HAVE THEIR CUSTOMARY HOLIDAY.

This was announced yesterday by the Ministry of Labour and National Service. It said: "In view of the urgent need for maintaining maximum war production in order to assist the efforts of our Forces in the Middle East and our Russian allies, the Government calls on all managements and workers engaged on war work to continue production during the coming Christmas and New Year season with not more than one day's break, either Christmas Day or New Year's Day."

**PAYMENT RATES**  
In the case of other establishments and services, and in particular retail shops, it is desired that there should be any departure from the arrangements which are customary at this time of year except to the extent that may be necessary for meeting the requirements of those continuing at work. The rates of payment and other conditions for work done during the period are in general prescribed by industrial agreements, and these should be observed.

## Dead Girl: Soldier Detained

A GUNNER was detained in Suffolk yesterday by Chief Inspector Rawlins, of the Bucks Constabulary, and Chief Inspector Hatherill, of Scotland Yard, in connection with the deaths of the two little Bucks girls whose bodies were found in a wood a week ago.

The girls, Doreen Hearn, aged 10, and Kathleen Trendell, aged 11, whose bodies were found in a wood at Penn, Bucks, after a search of the area, were detained on suspicion of having been shot by a German police constable tomorrow.

## DUCE'S GARRISONS TOLD: SURRENDER

The following communique was sent last night by Command Headquarters, Nafzari:

No details of the prisoners and German taken at Gondar have been received. There are still a few Italian troops which have been captured. The Italian troops, drafted by General Duce, are being held at Gondar. The Italian troops have been dropped on the outskirts by our aircraft.

**CASH CROSSWORDS:  
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As the Axis tanks moved west they were engaged and held by the British. The struggle that followed was bitter, neither side giving up gaining ground.

For hours the battle continued. And the latest news from Cairo was that it was still going on. While the tanks were locked in desperate fighting, British troops fought eastwards of Tobruk to capture an important strong point north of Bir El Hamid, a few miles north of Sidi Rezegh.

Describing the operations, British G.H.Q., Cairo, issued yesterday a general communiqué: "Heavy fighting continued yesterday (Friday) in the area south-east of Tobruk, where British and New Zealand forces are gradually widening their corridor of contact."

"To the east British troops yesterday (Friday) evening captured an important strong point north of Bir El Hamid, a few miles north of Sidi Rezegh."

"To the west enemy troops, which are predominantly German, continue to offer stiff resistance. Up to the evening of November 29 the British troops which had sailed from Tobruk had captured 79 field and medium guns together with quantities of light, anti-aircraft and anti-tank artillery and machine-guns and small arms."

"South-east of Sidi Rezegh German and Italian armoured forces which had been scattered and forced to withdraw eastward on the night of November 27-28."

**YESTERDAY (FRIDAY): THESE AXIS ARMoured FORCES ONCE MORE MOVED WESTWARDS, WHERE THEY WERE AGAIN HEAVILY ENGAGED BY OUR ARMoured FORCES.**

**YESTERDAY (FRIDAY): EVENING BITTER FIGHTING WAS STILL CONTINUING. WITHOUT THE SIDE PAVING GIVEN OR GAINED GROUND.**

(Continued in Back Page.)

## Italians Hold B.B.C. Reporter

THE B.B.C. ANNOUNCED IN THE ONE O'CLOCK NEWS YESTERDAY THAT THE ITALIANS CLAIMED TO HAVE CAPTURED THEIR RADIO NEWS OBSERVER, EDWARD WARD.

Ward, a reporter in the earlier Libya fighting, the campaign in Greece, and the present fighting.

## Experiments In casting tanks Will Give Australia Best in World

EXPERIMENTS in casting tanks in one piece, instead of riveting armour plates on a steel frame, are being made by Australian manufacturers.

In the opinion of engineering experts, this revolutionary technique in tank construction will give Australia the best tanks in the world.

## Submarines' Great Triumph in Arctic Ocean

# 8 NAZI SHIPS SUNK: 4 MORE 'PROBABLES'

FOURTEEN Nazi transports and supply ships on their way to the Murmansk front with men and munitions for Hitler's armies in North Russia have been sunk or damaged by British submarines.

Eight ships—two of which were transports laden with troops—are known to have been sunk. Four others were probably sunk and two more damaged. These successes were announced by the Admiralty last night in a communiqué which said:

"H.M. submarines operating in Arctic waters have been inflicting severe losses upon German troop transports and supply ships carrying reinforcements of men and material to the German armies on the Murmansk front."

H.M.S. Tigris (Commander H. F. Bone, D.S.O., D.S.C., R.N.) has sunk five enemy ships and seriously damaged a sixth by torpedoes.

"Two out of three" One of the attacks carried out by H.M.S. Tigris was against a heavily escorted convoy of three supply ships, and resulted in two out of the three supply ships being sunk.

H.M.S. Trident (Commander G. M. Sladen, D.S.C., R.N.) has successfully attacked seven enemy transport and supply ships.

Three of these were seen to sink and the other four were seriously damaged that their destruction is considered probable. An eighth enemy vessel was attacked and damaged by torpedoes.

One of the attacks carried out by H.M.S. Trident was against a heavily escorted convoy of four ships. Two hits were made and one vessel sank immediately. Two hours later the other vessel was observed to be seriously on fire and to be listing heavily.

It is known that two of the ships sunk by H.M.S. Trident were transports laden with troops.

## RAF BOMB TANKS Naples Factories Get Another Hammering

DIRECT HITS WERE MADE ON THE ARSENAL AT NAPLES IN A RAID BY THE RAF ON THURSDAY NIGHT, SAID YESTERDAY'S RAF COMMUNIQUE FROM CAIRO.

The torpedo factory, industrial works, oil tanks, the railway station, engine sheds and marshalling yards also received direct hits. Many fires were started.

In the Central Mediterranean on Friday our bombers scored at least five direct hits on a big merchant ship.

Continuing our attacks on enemy motorised forces, encampments, stores and land communications were maintained by our fighters and bombers in Libya in Friday.

AIRCRAFT DAMAGED: Motor transport at Marabba and on the Tripoli-Capozza, Bardia-Tobruk and El Ghibi-Paida roads, as well as in the Barga and Gazala areas, were successfully attacked.

Free French bombers were again active, and in an attack on the north landing ground at Ghatalla one large aircraft was destroyed and others damaged.

On Thursday night bombing raids were made on the landing ground at Barga and on enemy transport near Sidi Omar. At Barga dispersed aircraft were hit, and tanks round the airfield were gunned. Two groups of enemy vehicles were fired at Sidi Omar.

From these and other operations seven of our aircraft are missing.

"Top hole" was how many of them were hit.

## RUSSIANS RECAPTURE ROSTOV: GERMANS ON THE RUN

ROSTOV, great industrial city on the Don, and vital gateway to the Caucasus, has been recaptured by the Russians after being in German hands for several days.

This success—the most significant yet achieved by the Soviet forces since the Nazis invaded Russia—was announced in a special communique from Moscow last night.

"The Germans, in a surprise attack, a few days ago, took Rostov," it said.

"On Friday, units under General Renzov, having crossed the Don, entered the suburbs of the city. The Germans are retreating in disorder towards Taganrog, with Russian troops in pursuit."

Units under General Kharin broke through the German lines and entered Rostov from a north-easterly direction, threatening to encircle the German troops who occupied the town."

Earlier in the day the Berlin communique, after referring to "renewed Russian attacks with vast concentrations," admitted that the German troops were evacuating the inner city in accordance with the orders of the High Command.

This was done, it was stated, in order thoroughly to carry out the necessary reprisals against civilians who had taken part in the fighting in the rear of the German troops.

The swift recapture of the city prompted Stalin to send a message of congratulation to Marshal Timoshenko and to General Cherevchenko, Commander on the Southern front.

MOSCOW COUNTER-ATTACKS: SEE BACK PAGE.

"In the battles for the liberation of the city we completely annihilated the army group of General von Kleist, consisting of the 6th, 14th and 16th tank divisions, the 60th motorised division and the S.S. 'Viking' division."

"More than 5,000 enemy officers and men were left dead on the battlefield. Much booty has been captured and is now being counted."

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MOSCOW COUNTER-ATTACKS: SEE BACK PAGE.

## Jap Crisis Stops Leave in Singapore

"IT IS UP TO JAPAN TO MAKE THE FATAL CHOICE." THOSE GRAVE WORDS WERE UTTERED BY LORD HALIFAX, BRITISH AMBASSADOR, IN WASHINGTON YESTERDAY, FOLLOWING A DEADLOCK IN THE PACIFIC NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND JAPAN.

Simultaneously with Lord Halifax's statement came news that "as a precautionary move" all leave for our troops in Singapore had been stopped.

Notices recalling all troops to their barracks were flashed on the screens of cinemas in view of the general situation.

Lord Halifax, who cut short his tour in Pennsylvania to rush back to Washington, had several talks with Mr. Cordell Hull, U.S. Secretary of State. He later told reporters that Britain was co-operating closely with the American attitude.

Mr. Cordell Hull commented that there was nothing to be said about the situation and the Japanese Government had indicated their attitude towards a communication he had sent them.

He declined to reply when asked whether he thought a Japanese attack on Thailand would result in a conflict in the Pacific, or whether the situation would lead to a conflict with the Army and Navy.

It is understood that Mr. Cordell Hull's note to Tokyo stipulates that Japanese troops should quit China and that Japan should initiate the restoration of trade relations.

"JAP HONOUR" Tokyo's reply to this yesterday was a flood of unofficial war threats and declarations that it was contrary to the Japanese character to retreat.

Later, General Tojo, the Japanese Premier, heaped coals on the fire by saying: "Hostile nations, including the United States, are trying to exploit East Asia."

"For the honour and pride of mankind we must purge this sort of treachery from East Asia with a vengeance."

In addition to this subterranean Tokyo reported that for the first time for many weeks Japanese troops had bombed the Burma road.

Japan is unable to overlook the fact of an American patrol on the Burma road," the official Domei Agency added. "The matter may possibly be legal, but it is hostile and unprecedented in international law." —Reuter, B.U.P. and Exchange.

## Beaughters Big Bag

BEAUGHTERS HAVE DESTROYED at least 46 aircraft in the beginning of the offensive in Libya. It was officially stated in Cairo yesterday.

They have been constantly in action, striding enemy aeroplanes and aircraft on the ground and shooting-up enemy motor transport on the roads.

## Fight In Straits BRITISH AND GERMAN naval forces clashed in the Straits of Dover on Friday night, it was learned in London yesterday.

It is believed that E-boats were intercepted while trying in mist and darkness to attack a convoy.

The enemy was driven off and at least one E-boat is thought to have been damaged.

No British casualties have been reported.

Gunfire was heard from the English coast, which was lit by flasher and the red stream of tracer bullets.

Washington, Saturday.

The French Embassy in Washington announced today that its Naval Attaché, Lt. Col. Marquis Charles Henri de Lamoignon, has resigned for the purpose of enlisting in the Canadian Army.

It is reported that he told the French Ambassador, M. Henri Rieu, of his disapproval of Vichy's collaboration with the Axis, whereupon he was instructed to proceed to France.

Lt. Mirepoix resigned instead—Exchange.

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